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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY.



# KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

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REPORT FOR 1876.

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Yeoman Office---S. I. M. MAJOR, Public Printer.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
KENTUCKY INSTITUTION  
FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY,)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 1876.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY.

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1876.



LOUISVILLE, KY., December 15, 1876.

*To His Excellency, J. B. McCREARY,*

*Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

HONORED SIR: I herewith transmit the Report of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind for the year 1876, ending November 1st, 1876. The school is in the most satisfactory condition. It commands the esteem and confidence of not only those who participate in its benefits, but of all who witness the exercises of the pupils. I am very sure that there is not a school of any kind in which the pupils show a greater desire for learning than in this.

With great respect and esteem,

I have the honor to be, yours very truly,

T. S. BELL,

*President of Board of Trustees of Kentucky Institution for the Blind.*



# OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

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## BOARD OF VISITORS.

DR. T. S. BELL, PRESIDENT,  
HON. WM. F. BULLOCK,  
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W. N. HALDEMAN,  
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JOHN G. BARRET.

## SECRETARY AND SUPERINTENDENT.

B. B. HUNTOON.

## MATRON.

MRS. SARAH J. HUNTOON.

## TEACHERS.

MISS CLARA MATTINGLY,  
MISS MARY ANDERSON,  
MISS JULIA PURNELL.

## TEACHER OF MUSIC.

WILLIAM PLATO.

## TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

DAVID LASCH.

## SEAMSTRESS.

MISS SUSAN SATTERTHWAITE.

## PHYSICIAN.

T. S. BELL, M. D.

## ASSISTANT PUPILS.

ALICE WALKER,  
LOUISA MONOHAN,  
CHARLES FREDERICK.





## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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*To the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind:*

GENTLEMEN: The school has progressed satisfactorily during the past year. The number of pupils that have received instruction in that time is ninety-five, whose names and residences are herewith given :

Lilly Armstrong,	Lexington.
Naney Bates,	Grayson county.
John Beekman,	Louisville.
Charles Bohanon,	Louisville.
Patrick R. Boston,	Metcalfe county.
Harrison Branch,	Henderson county.
Nannie Peak Brown,	Warsaw.
Mathew Blute,	Newport.
Robert Caldwell,	Mayslick.
Margaret Carpenter,	Ohio county.
Henrietta Catlett,	Hopkinsville.
Mary Cavanaugh,	Louisville.
William Clark,	Louisville.
Winfield Scott Clark,	Muhlenburg county.
Neppie R. Conway,	Versailles.
Edward Cornell,	Louisville.
Clementine Craig,	Mt. Sterling.
Addie Crockett,	Frankfort.
Willis Daffern,	Wayne county.
Cynthia Ann Deaton,	Rockcastle county.
Frank P. Dollins,	Glasgow.
Mary Jane Elkins,	Crittenden county.
John M. Ernst,	Louisville.
John Ethridge,	Louisville.
Annie Fahy,	Pulaski county.
Winnie Fallaher,	Louisville.
Jeannie B. Fitzpatrick,	Priestville.
Algernon F. Flourney,	Paducah.
Robert Fox,	Louisville.
Charles Frederiek,	Louisville.
Sophronia G. Gibbons,	Clinton county.

Lorenz Hausman,	Newport.
Joseph T. Hawkins,	Bourbon county.
Effie Hazard,	Louisville.
J. William Heiser,	Newport.
Mildred J. Horrill,	Daviess county.
Annie C. Homire,	Louisville.
Fanny Hugel,	Trimble county.
Josie Kearns,	Jefferson county.
Anna Bell Kendall,	Louisville.
Mary Ann Landis,	Lexington.
Fanny Laycock,	Mason county.
Molly Lawson,	Hardin county.
Lenora Lillis,	Frankfort.
John D. Long,	Louisville.
Thomas McGavie,	Louisville.
Barbara McKinney,	Crab Orchard.
John R. Magoffin,	Harrodsburg.
Thomas Meddis,	Jefferson county.
George M. Miller,	Hawesville.
Louisa Monohan,	Louisville.
Emma Moorman,	Hardin county.
Noah B. Morehead,	Webster county.
Pamela P. Morehead,	Webster county.
Elijah Morgan,	Fayette county.
Lulie Morton,	Mason county.
James Murray,	Louisville.
Benjamin H. Myers,	Nicholas county.
Alice Parsons,	Louisville.
Delilah E. Patton,	Ohio county.
Annie Pope,	Louisville.
Nancy J. Porter,	Boone county.
Elizabeth Purdy,	Daviess county.
Helen May Purnell,	Maysville.
Mary F. Rogers,	Lexington.
Georgia Sale,	Louisville.
Elizabeth Schafer,	Louisville.
Louis Schafer,	Louisville.
Lucy Scott,	Princeton.
Charles Sedgwick,	Louisville.
William Settle,	Barren county.
James H. Shaecklett,	Meade county.
Nimrod L. Shepherd,	Clinton county.

Beverly Smith,	Crittenden county.
Edith Viola Smith,	Louisville.
James Stephens,	Wayne county.
Elizabeth Stull,	Montgomery county.
Frederick Telkammer,	Louisville.
Emile Trebing,	Louisville.
Robert Twyman,	Hopkinsville.
Joanna Varble,	Oldham county.
John Vernon,	Elizabethtown.
Mary Alice Walker,	Louisville.
Agatha Weaver,	Mason county.
Jane Weaver,	Mason county.
Agnes Wells,	Metealfe county.
Naomi Wells,	Harrodsburg.
Nannie Wems,	Louisville.
James Whitty,	Louisville.
Esther Arline Wilhite,	Lexington.
Joseph Wilkinson,	Prieeville.
John Williams,	Johnson county.
Ola Wood,	Jefferson county.
Mary C. Wooldridge,	Hardin county.
Ella Van Zandt,	Elliott county.

One of the pupils, Esther Arline Wilhite, died February 12th, 1876, of œdema of the lungs, brought on by disease of the heart of long standing. Her last illness was very brief, and her death seemed sudden. She was twenty years of age, and a girl of a sweet and cheerful disposition. She was universally beloved by teachers and pupils, and her memory will long remain green in their hearts. Her body, at the wish of her friends, was sent to them at Lexington in the charge of the Superintendent, and all that thoughtful love and care could do for her in her last hours was tenderly done. With this exeption there has been no serious illness in the school.

The educational part of the work of the school, so far as the literary branches are concerned, is for the present elementary. Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, History, English Composition, Elementary Natural History, Geography, Reading, Writing, and Spelling have been carefully taught. Especial attention has been given to educating the sense of touch, and object teaching has been used wherever the ingenuity of the teachers has found opportunity.

In the musieal branches no pains or expense have been spared to make the instruction thorough and eomplete as far as the means at our disposal have permitted us. The boys have a brass band and an orchestra under the direction of the most advanced of our pupils, and instruction

in vocal and instrumental music is given by music teachers and assistant pupils, under the general supervision of Prof. Wm. Plato, one of the most eminent music teachers of the city, who spends two days of each week in teaching the most advanced pupils upon the piano, and in instructing the choir.

In the mechanical branches, the boys have been taught to cane chairs with open and solid cane-work, to make brooms and mattresses, and to upholster furniture. The girls have been taught to sew and knit by hand, and to use sewing machines. We have lately introduced the use of the Dana Bickford Knitting Machine, and as it has been successfully taught in the New York City Institution for the Blind, we hope, by the end of the year, to have some among our pupils who will be able to use it skillfully. Some of the older girls have also been taught to cut, by the aid of pasteboard patterns, all of their garments, put them together, and make them on the sewing machine without any assistance.

The regular practice of the various series of light gymnastics is also a part of the daily routine of the school, as it has been for many years. The school is divided into two classes, and the performances of the advanced class will compare favorably with those of the trained classes in any school where these exercises are practiced.

It is the desire of all connected with the Institution to make it a place where the blind children of the Commonwealth may not only receive the instruction they so much need in literary, musical, and mechanical branches, but where they may receive a tender and loving care that shall secure their physical comfort, their mental development, and their spiritual progress.

Cleanliness and neatness are insisted upon, and the baths are as much a part of the regular routine of the school as any other feature.

For children utterly destitute, upon proper certification of that fact, suitable clothing is provided.

An hour every day is devoted to reading the daily papers, and books that will interest and improve; and for this purpose, the school is divided into two sections. Thanks are due to the publishers of the Daily Courier-Journal, The Kentucky Deaf Mute, The Goodson Gazette, and Dwight's Journal of Music, for the gratuitous and regular supply of these papers during the year. On Sundays the children are required to attend the churches designated by their parents.

Such is a brief sketch of the aims of the school, and what is doing for the education of the blind, not only in our own State, but in almost every State of our Union. And every one who reads this report, who knows of any blind child now growing up in ignorance, should consider what life without an education must be to a blind person, and should do everything



possible to place that child in an Institution for the Education of the Blind. It is a sad fact that not one half of the blind children in our State receive the advantages that the Commonwealth offers them without price. Many causes co-operate to produce so lamentable a state of things. Many parts of our State are difficult of access; parents are reluctant to part from those children who have been the object of unusual solicitude, and many are not aware that there is an Institution like ours in existence. Still our school has been regularly increasing in point of numbers for the last five years; and much of this increase is due to the personal efforts of some of the members of the Legislature to induce those who had blind children to send them to school.

The expediency and importance of educating the blind is no longer a matter of doubt. Its success in our country has been remarkable. At the meeting of the American Association of the Instructors of the Blind, at Philadelphia, last August, six of the twenty-nine Institutions that sent delegates were represented by blind Superintendents, and of the many papers read the most were written by blind men, and were certainly not the least interesting. One of these blind gentlemen read his own manuscript by touch, and one had printed his upon the type-writer.

In respect to the forms to go through to secure the admission of a child to the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, it is only required that the child be of so defective vision as to be unable to get an education in the ordinary schools; that it be of good health and sound mind, and within the school ages of six and sixteen; for it must be remembered that the Institution is neither a hospital nor an asylum. If the child is destitute, the fact should be so certified by the county judge, and in that case clothing will be provided.

The school session begins on the first Monday of September, and closes on the third Friday of June. Pupils will be admitted at any time, but they are much benefited by beginning promptly at the first of the session.

Blind persons over sixteen years of age will be admitted only upon special conditions.

If fuller information is desired it may be had from the Superintendent, or from any of the trustees, who will cheerfully correspond with any person wishing to place a blind child in the Institution.

In respect to the details of the management of the Institution for the past year, its employes consist of a Superintendent, B. B. Huntoon, with a salary of \$125 a month.

A matron, Mrs. S. J. Huntoon, with a salary of \$33½ a month.

A teacher, Clara J. Mattingly, with a salary of \$35 a month.

A teacher, Mary A. Anderson, with a salary of \$30 a month.

A teacher, Julia Purnell, with a salary of \$25 a month.

A teacher of music, Wm. Plato, with a salary of \$84 a month.

A teacher of handicraft, D. Laseh, with a salary of \$50 a month.

A teacher of sewing, Susan Satterthwaite, with a salary of \$20 5-6 a month.

An assistant pupil, Chas. Frederiek, with a salary of \$25 a month.

An assistant pupil, Louisa Monohan, with a salary of \$20 a month.

An assistant pupil, Alice Walker, with a salary of \$16 $\frac{2}{3}$  a month.

An engineer, Martin McCabe, with a salary of \$10 a month.

A gardener and fireman, Thos. Lucas, with a salary of \$30 a month.

An assistant gardener and fireman, Robert Lueas, with a salary of \$10 a month.

A cook, Hannah Murphy, with a salary of \$18 a month.

An assistant cook, Lizzie Flynn, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A laundress, Sarah McCabe, with a salary of \$15 a month.

An assistant laundress, Mary Curry, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A chambermaid, Kate Salmon, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A chambermaid, Annie Kelly, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A dining-room girl, Kate McGuire, with a salary of \$14 a month.

An assistant dining-room girl, Nellie McGuire, with a salary of \$9 a month.

All of the teachers and assistant pupils, except the teacher of sewing and one of the assistant pupils, are employed for but ten months of the year; all the others are employed for the full year.

The expenses of the Institution are under the general supervision of the Board of Visitors, no account ever being paid except upon a warrant ordered by a majority of the Board; but when the law was passed relieving the Institution from a Steward, the Board appointed a Committee on Supplies, consisting of G. H. Coehran, Z. M. Sherley, and T. L. Jefferson, who should direct the Superintendent what supplies to buy and where, and who should make the same monthly reports to the Governor as did the Steward. At the same time the Board directed the Treasurer to forward quarterly reports to the Governor.

The monthly reports of the Committee on Supplies to the Governor are as follows :

## EXPENDITURES of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind for the year ending October 1st, 1876.

## INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

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	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.
Salaries-----	\$550 01	\$484 21	\$476 61	\$497 16	\$500 91	\$487 01
Wages-----	152 00	152 00	152 00	152 00	152 00	152 00
Dry goods and clothing-----	82 75	5 40	62 90	68 09	116 77	34 43
Groceries-----	260 70	335 23	165 91	332 48	191 96	330 86
Breadstuffs-----	56 50	10 00	120 00	---	84 00	84 00
Meats, including fowls, fish, and game-----	86 04	119 85	116 93	108 12	102 56	179 25
Fruits and vegetables, including milk and ice-----	225 29	135 88	77 00	62 00	58 00	63 60
Drugs and medicines, and medical services-----	6 00	20 60	7 60	23 85	45 45	24 00
Fuel and lights-----	1 60	383 41	2 20	14 13	296 80	4 29
Buildings and repairs-----	268 32	1,064 27	40 42	13 04	61 78	101 30
Household and kitchen furniture-----	---	44 80	610 29	91 25	---	127 60
Laundry, soap-----	---	132 00	---	---	---	---
Vehicles, tools, and implements for the farm and garden-----	2 25	---	5 05	22 30	---	---
Expenses on live stock-----	69 59	---	5 75	15 00	6 60	---
Labor not included under headings of salaries and wages-----	10 00	---	10 00	7 00	---	12 00
Books and stationery-----	11 35	4 63	---	9 55	2 15	17 25
Postage and traveling expenses-----	8 25	75	11 00	6 85	217 55	19 25
Materials for workshop-----	86 32	18 75	44 71	26 45	57 26	26 30
Tuning and repairing musical instruments-----	---	---	2 50	2 25	14 00	---
Freight and express-----	---	---	2 50	---	---	---
Water rent-----	---	---	125 00	---	---	---
Funeral expenses-----	---	---	---	---	35 00	---
	\$1,876 97	\$2,971 48	\$2,038 00	\$1,451 52	\$1,942 79	\$1,562 54



## EXPENDITURES—Continued.

	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	Total.
Salaries -----	\$443 05	\$864 65	-----	\$245 85	\$245 85	\$456 70	\$5,252 01
Wages -----	152 00	152 00	\$152 00	152 00	152 00	152 00	1,824 00
Dry goods and clothing -----	28 25	65 97	106 23	15 95	194 47	12 20	753 41
Groceries -----	365 20	149 37	105 25	26 50	179 46	49 46	2,492 38
Breadstuffs -----	84 50	-----	75 00	-----	-----	74 75	588 75
Meats, including fowls, fish, and game -----	97 42	105 68	108 86	39 50	112 02	75 00	1,251 23
Fruits and vegetables, including milk and ice -----	60 00	68 50	72 20	101 00	56 85	175 65	1,155 97
Drugs and medicines, and medical services -----	6 30	3 00	29 80	3 00	3 85	5 05	178 50
Fuel and lights -----	-----	193 16	-----	-----	198 00	-----	1,093 59
Buildings and repairs -----	97 29	287 71	2,309 05	148 90	24 85	83 68	4,500 61
Household and kitchen furniture -----	-----	-----	149 20	-----	258 74	113 20	1,395 06
Laundry, soap -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	132 00
Vehicles, tools, and implements for the farm and garden -----	19 50	24 68	-----	-----	-----	-----	73 78
Expenses on live stock -----	-----	-----	15 20	-----	16 95	-----	129 09
Labor not included under headings of salaries and wages -----	12 00	21 25	35 25	24 00	12 00	-----	143 50
Books and stationery -----	2 80	-----	-----	-----	-----	15 00	62 73
Postage and traveling expenses -----	5 50	5 00	14 25	5 00	5 25	-----	298 65
Materials for workshop -----	48 03	72 22	-----	-----	7 20	67 30	454 54
Tuning and repairing musical instruments -----	-----	-----	10 00	6 75	11 35	24 00	70 85
Freight and express -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	2 50
Water rent -----	-----	-----	125 00	-----	-----	-----	250 00
Funeral expenses -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	35 00
	\$1,421 84	\$2,013 19	\$3,307 29	\$767 95	\$1,468 84	\$1,303 89	\$22,126 30



The Treasurer's report to the Auditor of the State, whose receipt has been acknowledged by the Auditor, shows the receipts of the Institution to have been, during the year, as follows:

Balance November 1st, 1875-----	\$13,229 27
Quarterly allowance, less exchange-----	2,622 35
Receipts from workshop-----	114 10
Annual allowance, less exchange-----	9,990 00
Quarterly allowance, less exchange-----	2,622 35
Receipts from the workshop-----	215 00
Quarterly allowance, less exchange-----	2,622 65
Receipts from the workshop-----	219 10
Quarterly allowance, less exchange-----	2,377 60
Receipts from the workshop-----	93 15
Returned by G. H. Cochran, Chairman of Building Committee-----	34 80
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	\$34,140 37
The total amount paid out on warrants-----	22,124 70
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Showing a balance of-----	\$12,015 67
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The extraordinary expenditures during the year have been the construction of asphalt pavements and a sewer pipe, amounting to \$998 52, and the erection of a brick building containing commodious workshops, and a stable for the contract price of \$2,066 20. These were all works of necessity, as we were obliged for the health of the children to close an open drain; and the old wooden building that had stood for a stable for many years was no longer safe.

The Institution stands in need of a pipe organ of a size sufficient to enable the advanced pupils in music to qualify themselves to become organists in churches; and at the earliest possible time should provide instruction in piano-forte tuning, as experience has shown that blind persons can do well in both of these occupations.

The aid received by the Institution from the use of the books furnished by the American Printing House for the Blind has had a remarkable effect upon the progress of the school. The new and improved text-books supplied by this noble charity, especially the charming readers by Prof. Noble Butler, have awakened a great interest among the pupils that has been felt in all the classes.

The Superintendent feels that the prosperity of the Institution during the past year is due, under Providence, to the advice and suggestions of the members of the Board of Visitors; to their careful supervision of all contracts and supplies, and their active, practical interest in all matters pertaining to its welfare; to the patient, conscientious, and painstaking

labors of the teachers, who have been unwearying in their devotion to the good of the pupils, both in and out of their regular school hours; to the cheerful and faithful work of the servants; and to the feeling pervading all, that so far as in them lies, the Kentucky Institution for the Blind shall be among the first in the world for thoroughness and wise economy.

Respectfully submitted,

B. B. HUNTOON, *Superintendent.*



